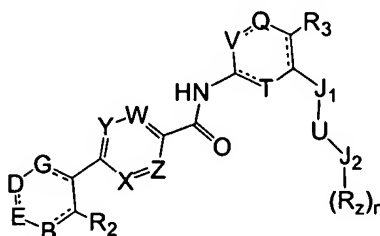


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each --- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1 , $\text{C}(\text{R}_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1 ;

D and G are independently CR_1 , $\text{C}(\text{R}_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1 , $\text{C}(\text{R}_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b ;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl, C_2 - C_8 alkynyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, C_0 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 haloalkyl, C_2 - C_8 alkyl ether, C_1 - C_8 alkylsulfonyl, C_1 - C_8 alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, $\text{C}(=\text{O})$, $\text{OC}(=\text{O})$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}$, $\text{OC}(=\text{O})\text{O}$, $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$, $\text{N}(\text{R}_x)$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{N}(\text{R}_x)$, $\text{N}(\text{R}_x)\text{C}(=\text{O})$, $\text{N}(\text{R}_x)\text{S}(\text{O})_m$, $\text{S}(\text{O})_m\text{N}(\text{R}_x)$ and $\text{N}[\text{S}(\text{O})_m\text{R}_x]\text{S}(\text{O})_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1 - C_8 alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino.

2. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein each ~~----~~ represents a double bond.

3. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein B, E, D, Y and W are CH.

4. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~, wherein T and V are independently N or CH.

5. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-4~~, wherein G is N.

6. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein R₂ is cyano, nitro, NHOH, amino, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄haloalkyl, C₁-C₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄alkylthio, C₁-C₄alkanoyl, C₁-C₄aminoalkyl, mono- or di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, (C₅-C₆cycloalkyl)amino, (5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, -N(R_x)SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl or -N(SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl)₂.

7. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 6, wherein R₂ is cyano, CHO, amino, nitro, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄haloalkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄haloalkoxy, C₁-C₄alkylthio, C₁-C₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₄aminoalkyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, oxadiazolyl, cyclopentylamino, -N(H)SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl, -N(CH₃)SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl or -N(SO₂C₁-C₂alkyl)₂.

8. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 7, wherein R₂ is cyano, CHO, amino, nitro, methyl, ethyl, propyl, hydroxymethyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, C₁-C₄alkylamino, (C₁-C₄alkyl)aminomethyl, cyclopentylamino, -N(H)SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl, -N(CH₃)SO₂CH₃ or -N(SO₂CH₃)₂.

9. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 6, wherein R₂ is halogen, methyl, cyano or trifluoromethyl.

10. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-9~~, wherein J₁ is O.

11. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-10~~, wherein U is C₂alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl.

12. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 11, wherein U is -CH₂-CH₂-.

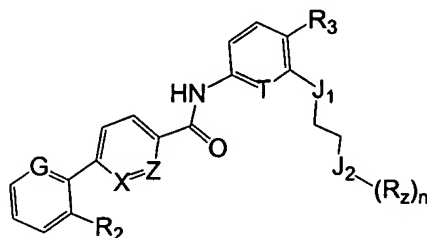
13. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 11, wherein U is -CH₂-C(O)-.

14. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-13~~, wherein -J₂-(R₂)_n is chosen from: (i) -OH and -NH₂, and (ii) C₁-C₄alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄haloalkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, C₁-C₄haloalkoxy and C₁-C₄alkylthio.

15. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-14~~, wherein R₃ is halogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₂-C₄alkyl ether, C₁-C₄haloalkyl, C₁-C₄hydroxyalkyl, -SO₂CF₃ or taken together with Q to form a fused, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle or heterocycle.

16. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 15, wherein R₃ is halogen, *tert*-butyl or trifluoromethyl.

17. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein the compound has the formula:



wherein:

G and T are independently CH or N;

R₂ is cyano, CHO, amino, nitro, methyl, ethyl, propyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, -N(H)SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl, -N(CH₃)SO₂C₁-C₄alkyl or -N(SO₂CH₃)₂;

R₃ is halogen, cyano, C₁-C₆alkyl or C₁-C₆haloalkyl;

X and Z are independently N, CH, C-OH, C-NH₂, C(C₁-C₃alkyl) or C(C₁-C₃haloalkyl);

J₁ is O or NH; and

–J₂–(R₂)_n is chosen from: (i) –OH and –NH₂, and (ii) C₁–C₄alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl and mono- and di-(C₁–C₆alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, C₁–C₄alkyl, C₁–C₄haloalkyl, C₁–C₄alkoxy, C₁–C₄haloalkoxy and C₁–C₄alkylthio.

18. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 17, wherein J₁ is O.

19. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 18, wherein:

X and Z are independently N or CH;

G is N; and

R₂ and R₃ are independently halogen, C₁–C₄alkyl or C₁–C₄haloalkyl.

20. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-phenyl]-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-{4-*tert*-Butyl-3-[2-(2,6-dimethyl-morpholin-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide (cis);

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-(3-{2-[Bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amino]-ethoxy}-4-*tert*-butyl-phenyl)-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-{4-*tert*-Butyl-3-[2-(3,3-dimethyl-piperidin-1-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-phenyl]-2-hydroxy-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-{4-*tert*-Butyl-3-[2-(2,6-dimethyl-morpholin-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-hydroxy-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide (cis); and

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-2-hydroxy-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide.

21. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-20~~, wherein the compound exhibits no detectable agonist activity in an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor agonism.

22. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-20~~, wherein the compound has an IC₅₀ value of 1 micromolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

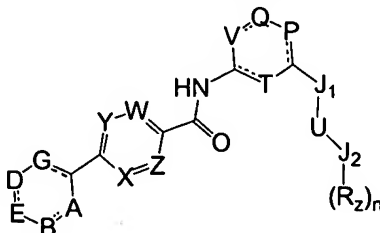
23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising at least one compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-20~~, in combination with a physiologically acceptable carrier or excipient.

25. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24 wherein the composition is formulated as an injectible fluid, an aerosol, a cream, a gel, a pill, a capsule, a syrup or a transdermal patch.

26-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Original) A method for inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to capsaicin receptor in a patient, comprising contacting cells expressing capsaicin receptor with at least one compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each --- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁, and the other of A or E is CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R₁ is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1 - C_3 alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1 - C_3 alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl or C_2 - C_6 alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

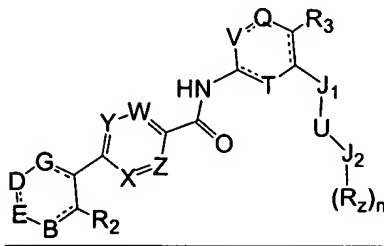
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b ; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2 , a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b ; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl/ C_0 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 hydroxyalkyl, C_1 - C_6 aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1 - C_6 alkyl)amino;

and thereby inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to the capsaicin receptor in the patient.

38. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 37, wherein the at least one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each --- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R₃ to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R₁ is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R₂ is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R₃ is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₈haloalkyl, C₂-C₈alkyl ether, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

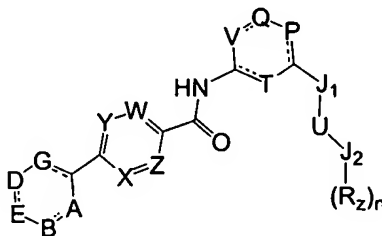
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20.~~

39. (Original) A method according to claim 37, wherein the patient is a human.

40. (Original) A method for treating a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation in a patient, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each --- independently represents a single or double bond;

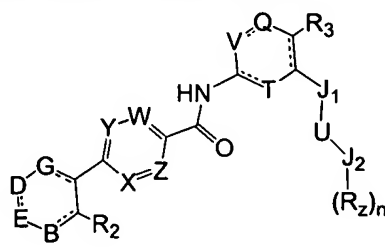
either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or

- (b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1 , and the other of A or E is CR_1 , $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;
- D and G are independently CR_1 , $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;
- W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;
- P, Q, T and V are independently CR_1 , $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b ;
- R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;
- L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, $C(=O)$, $OC(=O)$, $C(=O)O$, $OC(=O)O$, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1 - C_8 alkyl;
- M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl, C_2 - C_8 alkynyl, mono- and di- $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl)amino C_0 - C_4 alkyl, phenyl C_0 - C_4 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl C_0 - C_4 alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl) C_0 - C_4 alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl) C_0 - C_4 alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b ;
- J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;
- U is C_1 - C_3 alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1 - C_3 alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;
- Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,
n is 1, and
 R_z is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl or C_2 - C_6 alkyl ether; or
(b) J_2 is N,
n is 2, and
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b ; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2 , a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b ; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, C_0 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 hydroxyalkyl, C_1 - C_6 aminoalkyl and mono- and di- $(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)amino; and thereby alleviating the condition in the patient.

41. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 40, wherein the at least one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1 , $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N ; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1 ;

D and G are independently CR_1 , $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N ;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N ;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1 , $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH ; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b ;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R₃ is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₈haloalkyl, C₂-C₈alkyl ether, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

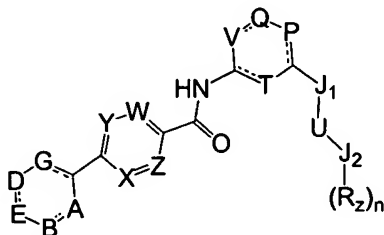
R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-

C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20.

42. (Original) A method according to claim 40, wherein the patient is suffering from (i) exposure to capsaicin, (ii) burn or irritation due to exposure to heat, (iii) burns or irritation due to exposure to light, (iv) burn, bronchoconstriction or irritation due to exposure to tear gas, air pollutants, infectious agents or pepper spray, or (v) burn or irritation due to exposure to acid

43. (Original) A method according to claim 40, wherein the condition is asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

44. (Original) A method for treating pain in a patient, comprising administering to a patient suffering from pain a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each \equiv independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁, and the other of A or E is CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

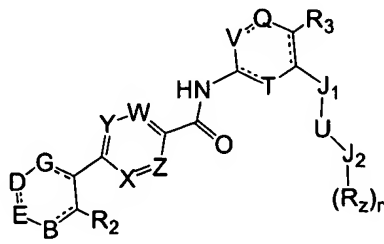
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino;

and thereby alleviating pain in the patient.

45. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 44, wherein the at least one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each --- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R₃ to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R₁;

R₁ is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R₂ is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R₃ is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₈haloalkyl, C₂-C₈alkyl ether, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl,

phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20.~~

46. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

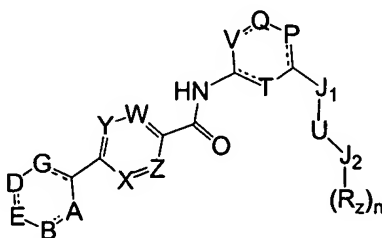
47. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the patient is suffering from neuropathic pain.

48. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the pain is associated with a condition selected from: postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump

pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, toothache, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, neuritis, neuronitis, neuralgia, AIDS-related neuropathy, MS-related neuropathy, spinal cord injury-related pain, surgery-related pain, musculoskeletal pain, back pain, headache, migraine, angina, labor, hemorrhoids, dyspepsia, Charcot's pains, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, venom exposure, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and trauma.

49. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the patient is a human.

50. (Currently amended) A method for treating itch, cough or hiccup in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each --- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁, and the other of A or E is CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R₁ is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl, phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

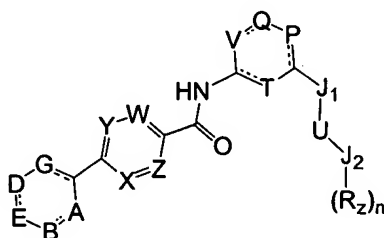
R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-

C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino;
 and thereby alleviating itch in the patient.

51. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 50, wherein the compound is a compound according to ~~claim any one of claims 1-20.~~

52-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Original) A method for treating urinary incontinence or overactive bladder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each \equiv independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁, and the other of A or E is CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R₁ is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m,

$S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1 - C_8 alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl, C_2 - C_8 alkynyl, mono- and di- $(C_1$ - C_4 alkyl)amino C_0 - C_4 alkyl, phenyl C_0 - C_4 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl C_0 - C_4 alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl) C_0 - C_4 alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl) C_0 - C_4 alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b ;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1 - C_3 alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1 - C_3 alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl or C_2 - C_6 alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

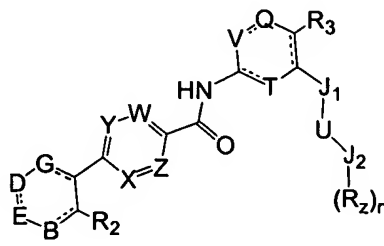
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b ; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2 , a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b ; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl C_0 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1 - C_6 hydroxyalkyl, C_1 - C_6 aminoalkyl and mono- and di- $(C_1$ - C_6 alkyl)amino;

and thereby alleviating urinary incontinence or overactive bladder in the patient.

55. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein the one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ~~----~~ independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R₁;

D and G are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, NR₁ or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR₁ or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR₁, C(R₁)₂, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R₃ to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R₁;

R₁ is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R₂ is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R₃ is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₈haloalkyl, C₂-C₈alkyl ether, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₈alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, S(O)_m, N(R_x), C(=O)N(R_x), N(R_x)C(=O), N(R_x)S(O)_m, S(O)_mN(R_x) and N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₈alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C₁-C₈alkyl, C₂-C₈alkenyl, C₂-C₈alkynyl, mono- and di-(C₁-C₄alkyl)aminoC₀-C₄alkyl,

phenylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C₀-C₄alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J₁ chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C₁-C₃alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C₁-C₃alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J₂ is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₂-C₆alkyl ether; or

(b) J₂ is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C₁-C₆alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J₂, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₃-C₈cycloalkylC₀-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₂-C₆alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₆aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C₁-C₆alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20.~~

56-60. (Cancelled)

61. (Original) A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24 in a container;

and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat pain.

62-63. (Cancelled)

64. (Original) A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:
- (a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24 in a container;
- and
- (b) instructions for using the composition to treat urinary incontinence or overactive bladder.

65-66. (Cancelled)